

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend paragraph 35 of the published specification as follows:

In another embodiment, detection subsystem 22 is configured to drive the same oscillating signal on the operator electrode as on the drive electrode, except that the signal on the operator electrode is 180-degrees out of phase with the signal on the drive electrode. Thus, when the first signal has a positive amplitude relative to ground, the second signal has a negative amplitude, and vice-versa. In other words, the signal on the operator electrode has a reverse polarity to the signal on the drive electrode. As will be appreciated by those of skill in the art, when the signal from the operator electrode is coupled to the blade, the peak-to-peak amplitude of the signal detected by the sense electrode will be even further reduced because each of the first and second electrical signals will tend to cancel the other. Optionally, the peak-to-peak amplitude of the second electrical signal may be either less than or greater than the peak-to-peak amplitude of the first electrical signal to cause the combined signal detected by the sense electrode to approximate a non-oscillating signal at ground potential. It will be appreciated that the peak-to-peak amplitude of the second electrical signal should be of sufficient magnitude to ensure that the peak-to-peak amplitude of the signal detected by the sense electrode changes when the user's body contacts the blade.

Please amend paragraph 38 of the published specification as follows:

However, when the user's body contacts the blade, the second electrical signal is coupled to the blade through the user's body. The resulting signal detected by the sense electrode, indicated at 104', will oscillate between V_d' and ~~V_d'~~ substantially and $-V_d'$ substantially in phase with the second electrical signal, i.e., approximately 180-degrees out of phase with the first electrical signal. The voltage amplitudes V_d' and $-V_d'$ will vary depending on the relative amplitudes of the first and second electrical signals as well as the impedances of the couplings of the drive electrode and operator electrode to the blade.